as Indian citizens so far, and of these who have been actually repatriated to India;

(c) the number of persons of Indian origin who have applied for registration as Sri Lankan citizens and of those who have been registered.

(d) the percentage of fulfilment of the Sri Lankan and Indian quotas at the end of 1994; and

(e) the number of persons of Indian origin who remain Stateless and the percentage they form of the total number of stateless persons at the time of the agreement?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Under the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement. High Commission of India in Colombo and Assistant High Commission of India in Kandy, have registered and granted Indian citizenship to 5,92,919 persons of Indian origin (accountable 4,20,319 plus natural increase 1,72,600) upto 31-3-95.

(b) Under 1964 and 1974 Agreements, a total number of 5,06,000 (accountable) persons of Indian Origin applied to High Commission of India in Colombo and Assistant High Commission of India in Kandy for registration and to acquire Indian citizenship. Out of this number, 4,20,319 accountable plus 1,72,600 natural increase i e. a total of 5,92,919 persons hae been registered and granted Indian citizenship upto 31-3-1995. Of these, 4,61,999 persons have been repatriated up to 31-12-94.

(c) Under the Agreements of 1964 and 1974 and the 1986 Accord. Sri Lanka Government agreed to grant Sri Lankan citizenship to 4,69.000 (accountable) persons of Indian origin. The Sri Lanka Government granted Sri Lankan citizenship to 3,37,620 (accountable 2,37,151 plus natural increase 1,00,469) till 31-12-1988. The balance 2,31,849 stateless persons of Indian origin have been absorbed as Sri Lankans under the "Grant of Citizenship to Stateless Persons (Special Provisions) Act No. 39 of 1988."

(d) The grant of Sri Lanka citizenship is linked with the grant of Indian citizenship in the ratio of 4 : 7. The figures of registration of persons of Indian origin who have acquired Sri Lankan citizenship have not been furnished by the Sri Lankan Government after 31-12-1988. Therefore, it is not possible to furnish the percentage of fulfilment of Sri Lankan and Indian quotas.

(e) At the time of the implementation of the Indo-Sri Lanka Agreement there were 9,75,000 stateless persons of Indian origin residing in Sri Lanka. After the "Grant of Citizenship to Stateless Persons (Special Provisions) Act No. 39 of 1988" the balance has been absorbed as Sri Lankan citizens and as such there is no stateless persons of Indian origin remaining in Sri Lanka except for those stateless persons who have applied for Indian citizenship to High Commission of India in Colombo and Assistant High Commission of India in Kandy. There were as on 28-2-1995, 73,563 persons of Indian origin (accountable 70,044 plus 3519 natural increase) who have applied for registration as Indian citizens but haave not shown any interest in acquiring Indian citizenship. Their percentage is approximately 7.5 per cent of the original figure of 9.75,000.

Delay in payment of retirement dues by the Ministry of External Affairs

4558. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any complaints of retired officials regarding the non-payment of their retirement dues and related matters, as reported in The Hindustan Times of 3rd April, 1995:

(b) if so, the reasons for delay in settling such cases in his Ministry;

(c) the number of such cases pending for more than one month, more than three months and more than six months;

(d) whether any responsibility has been fixed on the officers responsible for such delays; if so, the action taken or proposed to be taken against those responsible therefor; and

(e) what action is proposed to be taken to ensure that retirement benefits are paid to the retiring employees on or before the date of retirement, as is being done in other Government offices, in accordance with the directives issued by the Department of Personnel and Pensions?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) in most cases retirement dues are paid promptly. In some cases short delays in payment of some retirment dues occur because of non-settlement of audit objections relating to payments made to officers during their careers and lacunae in their Service Books.

(c) The number of cases in which pension payment orders have to issue are:

(i)	more than six months	4
(ii)	more than three months	7
(iii)	more than one month	12

(d) Does not arise.

(e) The Ministry has and will continue to emphasise to all concerned officers to ensure that there is no delay in payment of retirement dues.

Review of Indo-Nepal Treaty

4559. SHRI O. P. KHOLI:
SHRI GOVINDRAO ADIK:
SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH:
SHRI G. Y. KRISHNAN:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether The Prime Minister of Nepal, Shri Man Mohan Adhikari, during his recent visit to our country, had urged India to review the 1950 Indo-Nepal Friendship Treaty to conform to the changed circumstances;

(b) if so, the specific changes that he wanted to be made in the Treaty; and

(c) the reaction of Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (c) During the visit to India of the Prime Minister of Nepal Mr. Man Mohan Adhikari from 10-14 April, 1995, the discussions covered different aspects of bilateral relations, including review of the Treaty of Peace and Friendship of 1950. The two sides agreed to continue discussions on this and all relevant issues of bilateral interest at the appropriate level of the two countries. No precise proposals for specific changes in the treaty were made during the visit.

Letters written by MPs to the MEA

4560. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL alias MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of letters written by the Members of Parliament to the Ministry during the period from 1st April, 1994 to 31st March, 1995;

(b) what is the number of letters acknowledged out of them;

(c) what is the number of letters in respect of which final replied were sent; and

(d) what is the break-up of final letters issued by the Ministry, containing positive and negative replies, respectively?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI R. L. BHATIA): (a) to (d) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.